reserved forest area and earth cutting and stone quarrying are going on merrily in that reserved forest area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to remove those encroachers and check other illegal activities in the said area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not a fact that the Hengrabari R.F. exists only on paper. Forestry activities are going on to improve the area by implementing various schemes.

(c) At present approximately 120 hect. of area are under encroachment, but there is no earth cutting and stone quarrying in the area.

(d) The efforts are going on to evict the encroachers. There were 6 Stone Mahals, out of which 5 were closed during 1992. The sixth Stone Mahal of Hengrabari has been stopped from operation recently under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Export of Rice

411. SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some Non Governmental Organisations in Orissa are considering the export of rice from the State at a time when there is acute drought condition prevalent there;

(b) if so, whether Government have permitted this export; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Wakf Boards

412. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN DWAISI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has issued directives to the State Governments to draft new set of rules to restructure Wakf Boards in the respective States;

(b) if so, the details of the directives so issued;

(c) whether some State Governments have objected to the same; and

(d) if so, the States that have restructured the Wakf Boards as per the directions of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Under sub-section (1) of Section 109 of the Wakf Act, 1995, a State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette make rules to carry out the purpose of the said Act including the manner of section of Members of the Board. Framing and notification of these rules as also other action like establishment and constitution of a Wakf Board under Section 13 and 14 of the Wakf Act, 1995 as also constitution of a Tribunal under Section 83 of the said Act are to be taken by the respective State Governments. The Union government has not issued any directives to the State Governments to draft now set of rules etc. as it does not have powers to do so. However, as the Central Ministry incharge of subject of Wakf is allocated to the Ministry of Welfare, it has been requesting the State Governments from January, 1996, to take the above actions under the Act.

(c) Yes Sir. The Governments of Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Goa and UT Administration of Daman and Diu have expressed their inability to constitute Wakf Boards on the grounds of low Muslim population and/or absence of Wakf properties in their respective States. They have been asked to reconsider the matter.

(d) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya and West bengal have constituted new Walf Boards under the previsions of the Wakf Act, 1995.

Relief of Levy Sugar

413. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total relief on the levy sugar given to the Sugar Mills licensed after the September, 1990, year-wise; and

(b) the names of Sugar Mills with their locations that fall under the High Recovery Areas and those falling under other Recovery Areas, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The total relief on the Levy Sugar given to Sugar Mill under Incentive Scheme Licensed after September, 1990 Year-wise; is as under :-

S.No.	Sugar-Year	Total Qnty. in Tonnes
1.	1991-92	–
2.	1992-93	–
3.	1993-94	–
4.	1994-95	2742.0
5.	1995-96	2312.7
6.	1996-97 (as on Feb., 1997)	35845.1